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\$16 million GVSU project expected to get initial state OK

LANSING – Legislation that would move forward a \$16 million project on Grand Valley State University's Grand Rapids campus is headed to the governor to sign, Sen. Bill Hardiman, R-Kentwood, announced today.

The legislation authorizes Grand Valley State to begin planning for the Padnos College of Engineering project, which includes new construction and renovation work. The state is expected to contribute \$12 million to the project with the other \$4 million coming from the university. If the legislation, Senate Bill 235, is signed, the university will conduct a planning study for the improvements. Future legislation would be needed to OK state money to begin construction once the planning work is completed.

"Higher education remains a priority in the Legislature and with this money we're helping the university grow," said Hardiman, a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee. "Grand Rapids-area residents expect to see their tax dollars come back to their community and support education and increase educational opportunities."

The project is part of \$260 million in capital improvements going toward community college, university and other projects.

Hardiman serves on the capital-outlay and higher-education Appropriations subcommittees.

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